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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/488,500	01/20/2000	Klaus M. Irion	02581-P0204A	4514
7590	02/11/2004			EXAMINER
Wesley W Whitmyer Jr St Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC 986 Bedford Street Stamford, CT 06905-5619			MATHEW, FENN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3764	
			DATE MAILED: 02/11/2004	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/488,500	IRION, KLAUS M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fenn C Mathew	3764	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 November 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

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DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications filed 11/3/2003. As directed by the applicant, claims 1 and 23 have been amended. Claims 1-44 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1, 3-14, 19, 23, 25-36, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iacovelli (U.S. 5,350,391) in view of Gain (U.S. 3,840,015). Please refer to paragraph 5 of the previous office action. Furthermore, applicant has not defined the excitation range of the tumor-specific material or auto-fluorescing tissues.
3. Claims 2 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iacovelli in view of Gain as applied to claims 1 and 23 above, and further in view of Richards-Kortum. See paragraph 6 of the office action dated 12/4/2002.
4. Claims 12-13 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iacovelli in view of Gain as applied to claims 1 and 23 above, and further in view of Sugai. Please refer to paragraph 7 of the office action dated 12/4/2002.
5. Claims 15-18, 20-22, 37-40, and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iacovelli in view of Gain as applied to claims 1 and 23 above,

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and further in view of Nakamura. Please refer to paragraph 8 of the office action dated 12/4/2002.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 11/3/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant has overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. Referring to applicant's argument with regards to Iacovelli and Gain, applicant has merely claimed that the fluorescing substance has an excitation range that matches the excitation range of the tumor-specific photosensitizer. Applicant has not claimed any specific ranges with respect to the tumor-specific photosensitizer or auto-fluorescing tissues. As mentioned in the response to arguments in the office action of Paper No. 8, Examiner pointed out overlaps between excitation ranges of certain auto-fluorescing tissues and fluorescing substances used. Thus the skilled artisan would necessarily have used a light source that excites both the fluorescing material and the auto-fluorescing tissue. Furthermore, arguments with respect to the effects on the rods of a user's eyes are not taken well as applicant has not provided any structural limitations that would affect the 'degree of visibility'.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fenn C Mathew whose telephone number is (703) 305-2846. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:30pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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February 6, 2004

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